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| TRANSMITTAL OF APPEAL BRIEF | | | Docket No. 03226/158001; P6867 |
| In re Application of: Sudhakar Bobba et al. | | | |
| Application No. 10/071,379-Conf. #1774 | Filing Date February 6, 2002 | Examiner M. Y. Dimyan | Group Art Unit 2825 |
| Invention: SIGNAL SHIELDING TECHNIQUE USING ACTIVE SHIELDS FOR NON-INTERACTING DRIVER DESIGN | | | |

TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS:

Transmitted herewith is the Reply Brief in this application, with respect to the Notice of Appeal
filed: December 7, 2004

The fee for filing this Appeal Brief is Paid 01/11/2005

☐ Large Entity☐ Small Entity☐ A petition for extension of time is also enclosed.

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for RLT PLO Reg. No. 46,479
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Dated: December 27, 2005

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Signature: Debra V. Wieser (Debra V. Wieser)



Application No. (if known): 10/071,379

Attorney Docket No.: 03226/158001; P6867

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(Debra V. Wieser)

Docket No.: 03226/158001; P6867
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Sudhakar Bobba et al.

Confirmation No.: 1774

Application No.: 10/071,379

Art Unit: 2825

Filed: February 6, 2002

Examiner: M. Y. Dimyan

For: SIGNAL SHIELDING TECHNIQUE USING
ACTIVE SHIELDS FOR NON-INTERACTING
DRIVER DESIGN

32615

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

REPLY BRIEF

MS Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Answer dated October 26, 2005, to the Appeal Brief filed August 5, 2005, Appellant submits the following.

I. Status of Claims

Claims 1-15 were presented in the present application as originally filed. By way of the Response to the Office Action of April 21, 2004, claim 2 was canceled.

Claims 1 and 3-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,596,506 issued to Petschauer et al. (hereinafter "Petschauer") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,285,208 issued to Ohkubo (hereinafter "Ohkubo").

II. Grounds of Rejection to be Reviewed on Appeal

The issue presented on appeal is:

Whether claims 1 and 3-15 of the present application are unpatentable under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Petschauer and Ohkubo (*see* final Office Action of September 7, 2004, 2004, pages 2 – 4).

III. Supplemental Arguments

Appellant submits the following supplemental remarks in response to the Examiner's Answer dated October 26, 2005 ("Examiner's Answer") for the present application

In the Examiner's Answer, the Examiner asserts that while Appellant relies on the circuit of Figure 5 of Ohkubo to support that Ohkubo does not teach the limitations of the claims, the Examiner relies on the circuit of Figure 11 of Ohkubo to satisfy the requirements of Appellant's claims (*see* Examiner's Answer at page 6). Presumably, the Examiner is attempting to differentiate the circuit of Figure 5 from the circuit of Figure 11 of Ohkubo.

However, Appellant respectfully notes that while the circuits shown in Figures 10 and 11 of Ohkubo have slight structural differences (*i.e.*, the replacement of NAND gates with NOR gates and inverters, or with XOR gates) there is no discussion of a resultant effect that is different from that of the circuit shown in Figure 5. In fact, Ohkubo explicitly states that "the interference preventing circuits **W11 to W41** or **W12 to W42** operate in the same manner as the interference preventing circuits **W1 to W4**, when only one of the input signals **IN1 to IN5** is activated as decoding signals" (*see* Ohkubo, col. 10, lines 14-24). Further, as with the discussion of Figure 5 of Ohkubo, in the discussion of Figures 10 and 11, Ohkubo is completely silent with respect to the transition of a shield wire after a transition of a signal, as required by independent claim 1 of the present application.

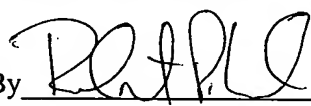
Thus, the arguments presented in the Appeal Brief with respect to the circuit of Figure 5 and the timing diagrams of Figures 6-7 of Ohkubo apply equally to the circuits of Figures 10 and 11 of Ohkubo. Given the signal transitions shown in Figures 6 and 7 of Ohkubo, it would be clear to one skilled in the art that Ohkubo completely fails to contemplate the

transition of a shield wire after a transition of a signal as required by independent claim 1 of the present application. Accordingly, with reference to Figure 5, Figure 10, or Figure 11 of Ohkubo, Ohkubo clearly fails to disclose or suggest all the limitations of independent claim 1 of the present application.

Appellant believes this reply is fully responsive to all outstanding issues and places this application in condition for allowance. If this belief is incorrect, or other issues arise, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned or his associates at the telephone number listed below. Please apply any charges not covered, or any credits, to Deposit Account 50-0591 (Reference Number 03226/158001; P6867).

Dated: December 27, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

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